

ECOSYSTEM SCIENCE PROGRAM: TIER TWO

The Strategic Plan will be developed with assistance from the Ecosystem Science Program, a long-term program that will provide technical and scientific input for restoration activities. A three-tiered ecosystem science program will provide a conduit for multiple levels of scientific input needed to address complex scientific issues in order to develop, implement, and assess CALFED ecosystem restoration activities.

The second tier of the Ecosystem Science Program is a standing science body of experts with specific knowledge of Bay-Delta restoration issues. The standing science body is reservoir of expertise whose function and participation will change depending on the issues; it is not a single panel or work group. The members of the standing science body are identified for specific experience applicable to CALFED restoration efforts and may have any affiliation. The tier two experts will not be compensated but will be asked to participate in focused, technical workshops facilitated by the core team and CALFED staff in order to develop the Strategic Plan and other CALFED restoration programs.

Scope

The primary scope of the program is to assist in the development of the CALFED Strategic Plan for ecosystem restoration. Specifically, the program will focus on the ERPP, the Restoration Coordination/Roundtable process, and the Conservation Strategy for CALFED ESA compliance. The scope of the program may evolve to cover other issues as appropriate in the future. The experts will review and provide input on monitoring and research findings, indicators, models and testable hypotheses, ESA compliance strategies, the adaptive management strategy, and other work prepared by the Core Team and CALFED staff.

Organization

The experts will be organized according to speciality. The program will build off of existing efforts or teams including the Integration Panel, Indicators Group, the technical advisors to the Scientific Review Panel, the USGS/IEP/SFEI IEMRP effort, and others. These groups may be augmented with additional experts or may collaborate with other groups depending on the task. Anticipated work groups or workshops of the program include the following:

- conceptual models and testable hypotheses: Indicators Group, USGS/IEP/SFEI, technical advisors
- monitoring: USGS/IEP/SFEI
- implementation priorities: all
- implementation strategies: all
- flow
- ESA compliance / species requirements: technical advisors, USFWS, and others
- eco water quality/contaminants